



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 4, 2002

### **H.R. 3480** **Upper Mississippi River Basin Protection Act of 2001**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on March 20, 2002*

H.R. 3480 would establish a sediment and nutrient monitoring network as part of the Upper Mississippi River Stewardship Initiative. This new monitoring network would identify and evaluate significant sources of sediment and nutrients in the Upper Mississippi River watershed. H.R. 3480 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the U.S. Geological Survey, to establish guidelines for data collection, storage, and analysis—as well as the integration of the new data into current monitoring programs and coordination with other public and private monitoring programs. In addition, the bill would authorize the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a comprehensive water resources assessment of the Upper Mississippi River watershed.

The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$6.25 million a year to implement its provisions, plus additional amounts for the required report. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3480 would cost \$31 million over the 2003-2007 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. CBO assumes that most of these funds would be allocated for salaries and expenses related to developing, implementing, and maintaining the new monitoring network. H.R. 3480 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 3480 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Any costs incurred by state or local governments to participate in the program authorized by this bill would be voluntary.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Julie Middleton. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.